

REMARKS

Initially, applicant notes that claims 1-17, inclusive, stand allowed pursuant to the Official Action. Applicant has noted an obvious typographical error in claim 1, which is corrected hereinabove.


Applicant has amended the remaining originally filed claims 18-21 and added new claims 22 and 23, which are all limited in a manner designed to place the instant application in condition for allowance. Initially, claims 18 and 20, as can be seen hereinabove, contain the basic combination of elements of claim 1 and have both been amended to recite the “projections disposed along said first decorative rail and said second decorative rail and configured to form said pinch resistant interfaces” as recited in allowed claim 1. In view of these amendments, it is submitted that independent claims 18-20 are now in condition for allowance, as well as claims 19 and 21 depending therefrom.

New independent claim 22 has been added which is also patterned after independent claim 1 to a substantial extent. Claim 22 also includes the limitation of claim 1 regarding the “projections disposed along said first decorative rail and said second decorative rail and configured to form a pinch resistant interface between the panels during articulation thereof”. Claim 22 does not require that the decorative components be outwardly flush with the first and second decorative rails, but otherwise specifies that the first decorative rail is positioned “at the upper extremity of said panels” with a second decorative rails “at the lower extremity of said panels”. In thus reciting the positions of the decorative rails and the projections positioned thereon in the manner of allowed independent claim 1, it is submitted that independent claim 22 is allowable.

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In view of the above amendments to the claims and related comments, reconsideration and a formal Notice of Allowance of claims 18-23 in addition to allowed claims 1-17 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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